



Department of Justice

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Northern District of New York

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PRESS RELEASE

Albany, New York —United States Attorney Richard S. Hartunian and Patrick Coultry, Resident Agent in Charge of the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security, announced that FRANK FERRIS, age 53, of Saratoga Springs, New York, pled guilty today in United States District Court in Albany before Senior District Judge Thomas J. McAvoy to Count 1 of an Indictment charging him with the possession of child pornography.

In connection with his plea, FERRIS admitted the following in a written plea agreement and during his plea proceedings:

Between about May, 2008 and September, 2009, FERRIS, while in his residence, used his Dell Inspiron 530 desktop computer (s/n HGJY2F1) (which contained a Seagate 250 GB hard drive, s/n 9QE5MLQH) to access the Internet. While on the Internet FERRIS visited child pornography websites. While visiting the child pornography websites, FERRIS viewed, downloaded and possessed child pornography by purchasing access to electronic still images and videos depicting minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct, and by accessing said images and videos for free. In particular, on or about May 18, 2008, FERRIS used his credit card bearing account number xxxx-xxxx-xxxx-0888 to pay \$79.99 for access to the contents of a child pornography website advertised as "Pedo -----." This website required a purchaser to provide the purchaser's e-mail address and FERRIS gave the e-mail address of fferris@rr.nycap.com. After viewing still images and videos of child pornography on various dates and through various websites, FERRIS then downloaded and saved a number of these still images to his computer in order to view them on later dates.

On September 11, 2009 investigators executed a federal search warrant at FERRIS' residence in Saratoga, New York. The computer referenced above was seized and searched. A forensic examination of the computer, which belonged to the Defendant, was conducted. Ten still images which depict minors engaged in sexually explicit conduct, as those terms and phrases are defined in Title 18, United States Code, Section 2256(2), were recovered from the Dell Inspiron 530 desktop computer. Said images depict individuals under the age of 18 engaged in oral sex and the lascivious exhibition of the genitals and pubic area. All of the

images recovered depict actual, as opposed to computer generated, images of minors engaged in such conduct.

On September 11, 2009 FERRIS was interviewed by law enforcement officials. FERRIS advised investigators that during the pertinent time frame, while living at his residence in Saratoga, New York:

- i. He used the e-mail addresses of fferris@rr.nycap.com and bigwheel@rr.nycap.com;
- ii. He was the only person living in his apartment and he was the only person who used the Dell Inspiron 530 computer located in the apartment; and
- iii. He owned a JP Morgan Chase credit card with account number xxxx-xxxx-xxxx-0888.

Sentencing was scheduled by Judge McAvoy for April 11, 2011, at 11:30 a.m. in U.S.

District Court in Albany, New York. FERRIS faces a maximum penalty of 10 years of imprisonment. FERRIS was released pending his sentencing.

This case was investigated by U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Department of Homeland Security.

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